

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the Office Action of November 13, 2008 in above-identified application.

A request for two month extension of time, along with the associated fee, is filed herewith.

Claims 10-16 and 26-34 are currently pending herein. Claims 20-25 have been cancelled as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Rejoinder of Claims 26-29 is requested upon allowance of Claims 10-16.

The rejection of Claim 10-16 and 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(e) in view of the *Lisman* Abstract is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a copy of a publication entitled *Gel Filtration*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, published by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, pp. 38, et. Seq., the company that manufactures cross-linked agarose (Sephacrose). On page 39, the manufacturer states that their product Sepharose melts on heating to above 40°C proving that it is not autoclavable.

The *Lisman* material is not autoclavable as required by all of applicant's claims.

Therefore, *Lisman* fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed subject matter.

New Claims 33 and 34 are presented to define more detailed aspects of the present invention.

New Claim 33 now excludes spacer of the formula  $-(CH_2)_nPh NH-$ ; that is, spacers of the type shown by *Lisman*.

New Claim 34 specifies that "n" ranges from 1 to 7 thereby excluding the spacers of *Lisman*.

New Claims 33 and 34 therefore distinguish from *Lisman* and are submitted to be patentable.

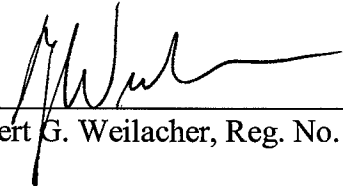
Favorable action at the Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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